

18 April 2013

Dear Parents

The Qatar National Library offers a very comprehensive range of databases to all adult residents of Qatar, whether Qatari citizens or residence permit holders.  This service is free of charge, and access only requires a simple registration procedure. At this stage, the Library has not yet opened registration to school students. However, if a parent registers and becomes a patron, the librarians at the National Library are quite willing for school students to access the databases, through their parents’ registration, and with the support and supervision of their parents.

We urge all members of the ISLQatar community to take advantage of this extraordinary resource, and particularly parents of Grade 11 students currently researching their Extended Essay topics. However the online collection is vast and includes access to ebooks, audiobooks, video material, Arabic resources as well as academic databases and would be of interest to parents of students in both the Primary and Secondary school. Access, through their parents’ registration would be very useful for students in Grade 8 and above.

In order to register, go to <http://www.qnl.qa/home> and click on the link [New to National Library?](http://library.qnl.qa/selfreg) This will take you to the registration page (<https://library.qnl.qa/selfreg>). There is a simple form to fill out, requiring details of Qatari ID or Residence Permit number.

Once you have submitted this form online, a message will appear on the screen indicating that a barcode numberhas been assigned to you, and that you will be required to bring proof of identity to the Library project office before a PIN number can be assigned to you. However the patron registration team at the Qatar National Library has offered to come to school and issue pin numbers to parents and teachers at school, instead of their having to go to the Library project office. We have tentatively arranged for this to be done on Tuesday 30 April, between 10:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m. – confirmation will follow. Before pin numbers can be issued, the team will need to see your Qatari ID or residence permit, and physically see the person whose document it is. Please bring this document, as well as a copy of it. It is important that the person whose details are used in the online registration period is free to come to school on April 30 to have the ID verified, or is willing to go to the Library project office at a convenient time.

In order for the pin numbers to be prepared in advance, please send your name, as it appears on the ID document you used to register, and the barcode number, to me at [nchalmers@islqatar.org](mailto:(nchalmers@islqatar.org)) as soon as it has been assigned. This will mean that when the team comes to issue the pin numbers it will be a very quick procedure.

We are very grateful to the staff of the Qatar National Library for making these resources available to us, and I hope they will be widely used across our school community.

Kind regards

Nerine Chalmers

Librarian, Secondary Librarian